



October 4, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: NOTICE OF ORAL EX PARTE
In the Matter of IP-Enabled Services WC Docket No. 04-36**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 1, 2004, representatives of the Board of the Alliance for Public Technology, Debbie Goldman, Max Stachura, Karen Peltz Strauss, and Arturo Gandara, met with staff of the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) to discuss social obligations for Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology. Staff from the WCB included Julie Veach, Marcus Maher, Michael Goldstein, Darryl Cooper, and Jennifer McKee.

We stressed APT's mission to support policies that encourage universal, affordable access to advanced services. As such, VoIP offers exciting possibilities and opportunities, but only if the social obligations that have been the hallmark of the public switched network are carried over to VoIP.

These include universal service and telecommunications relay service contribution from all voice providers, regardless of the technology; accessibility requirements for people with disabilities; public safety such as E911 obligations; and consumer protections. We stressed that in deciding the appropriate jurisdiction over VoIP and IP-enabled services, the FCC must ensure that these obligations are met, and that state programs such as state universal service fund contribution mechanisms continue to apply to all voice telephony calls, regardless of the technology employed.

Sincerely,

_____/S/
Arturo Gandara
APT Policy Chair